

**MEDIA RELEASE**  
**Attention Chief of Staff**  
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## **Mega incinerator proposal for Eastern Creek will stigmatise Western Sydney and cause toxic pollution**

The National Toxics Network (NTN) has warned in its submission to the NSW Government that if the mega incinerator proposal for Eastern Creek were to proceed it would condemn Sydney to more air and water pollution with dangerous chemicals like dioxins and mercury that would belch from its stacks for decades. Western Sydney would be stigmatised as an unhealthy place to live, which would impact its real estate prices.

“The dirty so-called ‘energy from waste’ incinerator industry is desperately trying to get a foothold in NSW at a time when other countries are walking away from this unsustainable industry,” said Jo Immig, Coordinator of the National Toxics Network.

“The majority of submissions to date have rejected this proposal. The people of Western Sydney are rightly angry and do not support the proposal,” Ms Immig said.

“Let’s be crystal clear - incineration is no way to manage waste resources nor generate renewable energy. International studies have shown incineration technology is the dirtiest way to produce energy, worse than coal and gas for green house gases. It’s a climate disaster and there’s nothing renewable about it,” she said.

“The incinerator risks undermining Sydney’s recycling efforts because the huge investment in the facility and contracts for supply of feedstock would likely mean it ends up burning lots of plastic and other recyclable materials for decades to come,” she said.

“The consultation process and technical documents tabled for this development are totally inadequate. Community engagement has been minimal and the assessments do not address the risks and management of pollution, or the risk of a major accident such as fire or explosion at the facility, which is going to be very close to residences,” Ms Immig said.

“The NSW Government should heed the recent decision of the European Commission which recommend an EU-wide withdrawal of renewable energy subsidies for the waste burning industry, the closure of old incinerator plants and the avoidance of setting up any new facilities”.

“This is a critical time in waste management for NSW and government policies should be embracing zero waste solutions, not incinerators under the guise of ‘renewable energy’,” Ms Immig concluded.

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